

For Immediate Release: Monday, April 16, 2012 <u>Contact</u>: Scott Hughes (334) 271-7955

ADEM Hosts Local High School Students For Earth Day Event

MONTGOMERY – Officials at the Alabama Department of Environmental Management have announced their plans for a special Earth Day event to be held on Wednesday, April 18. The Earth Day celebration calls for almost 250 area high school students to visit ADEM and learn about the environmental programs that are implemented on a daily basis to protect and preserve Alabama's air, land, and water quality.

The visiting students will receive guided tours of ADEM and learn about a wide-range of environmental programs to include fish tissue monitoring, water quality sampling, air monitoring, recycling, solid/hazardous waste disposal, and efforts that ensure Alabamians are provided with clean, safe drinking water. In addition, the students will learn about career opportunities at ADEM and will be encouraged to pursue careers in the science field.

"The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has one of the most diverse staffs in all of state government," said ADEM Director Lance LeFleur. "Our scientists, engineers, geologists, meteorologists, chemists, biologists, and other professionals have dedicated their careers to protecting Alabama's natural resources and we are pleased that we can provide this opportunity to educate these local high school students on the benefits of protecting our environment and at the same time provide them with information on career opportunities in science and math."

The Earth Day event will begin at 8:30 and will be held at the ADEM building located at 1400 Coliseum Boulevard. Participating high schools include Holtville High School, Booker T. Washington Magnet High School, G.W. Carver High School, Sidney Lanier High School, and Robert E. Lee High School.